Ko

--Since the display area spacers of the LCD panel fabricated according to the present method are pinched between the TFT substrate and the CF substrate in a state in which the display area spacers are compressed at room temperature, deformation of the whole panel hardly occurs due to the presence of the compressive stress (resistance force) of the display area spacers. Therefore, the appropriate cell gap can be maintained throughout the display area of the LCD panel for a long period of time.--

## **IN THE CLAIMS:**

Kindly cancel claim 1, without prejudice.

Please amend claims 2, 3, 4 and 5 to read as follows:

2. (Amended) A fabrication method of a liquid crystal display panel, comprising the steps of:

forming a seal member on at least one of a pair of opposing transparent substrates such that said seal member surrounds a display area of said liquid crystal display panel;

arranging first spacers on said display area on said substrate, said first spacer having an initial size in a cell gap direction larger than an appropriate cell gap necessary to perform an appropriate liquid crystal display;

dropping liquid crystal onto an area surrounded by said seal member on one of said transparent substrates;

forming a panel by sticking one of said transparent substrates on the other with said seal member in a vacuum chamber;

putting said panel under atmospheric pressure to deform said first spacers through a deformation of said panel; and



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- 3. (Amended) A fabrication method of a liquid crystal display panel, as claimed in claim 2, wherein said seal member contains second spacers mixed therein, said second spacer being formed of a material, which is hardly deformed when it is pinched between said transparent substrates under atmospheric pressure.
- 4. (Amended) A fabrication method of a liquid crystal display panel, as claimed in claim 2, wherein said first spacer is deformed to the size corresponding to said appropriate cell gap.
- 5. (Amended) A fabrication method of a liquid crystal display panel, as claimed in claim 2, wherein a relative value of an initial average size of said first spacers to said appropriate cell gap is within a range from a value larger than 102.9% to a value smaller than 107.0%.

Please add new claims 7 and 8 reading as follows:

--7. A fabrication method of a liquid crystal display panel, comprising the steps of:
forming a seal member on at least one of a pair of opposing transparent substrates such
that said seal member surrounds a display area of said liquid crystal display panel;

arranging first spacers on said display area on said substrate, said first spacer having an initial size in a cell gap direction larger than an appropriate cell gap necessary to perform an appropriate liquid crystal display;

dropping liquid crystal onto an area surrounded by said seal member on one of said transparent substrates;

forming a panel by sticking one of said transparent substrates on the other with said seal member in a vacuum chamber;

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175 CANAL STREET MANCHESTER, NH 03101 TEL. 603.668.1400 FAX. 603.668.8567 putting said panel under atmospheric pressure to deform said first spacers through a deformation of said panel, wherein excessive deformation of said panel due to atmospheric pressure is prevented by compressive stress of spacers located at a central region of said panel; and

hardening said seal member after an inner volume of said panel becomes equal to a volume of said liquid crystal, wherein said first spacer is elastically deformable from an initial size thereof to a size corresponding to said appropriate cell gap, and said seal member contains second spacers mixed therein, said second spacer being formed of a material, which is hardly deformed when it is pinched between said transparent substrates under atmospheric pressure.

8. A fabrication method of a liquid crystal display panel, comprising the steps of:
forming a seal member on at least one of a pair of opposing transparent substrates such
that said seal member surrounds a display area of said liquid crystal display panel;

arranging first spacers on said display area on said substrate, said first spacer having an initial size in a cell gap direction larger than an appropriate cell gap necessary to perform an appropriate liquid crystal display;

dropping liquid crystal onto an area surrounded by said seal member on one of said transparent substrates;

forming a panel by sticking one of said transparent substrates on the other with said seal member in a vacuum chamber;

putting said panel under atmospheric pressure to deform said first spacers through a deformation of said panel, wherein excessive deformation of said panel due to atmospheric pressure is prevented by compressive stress of spacers located at a central region of said panel; and

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